

Michael Davis
Director of Schools

Ron Ashe
Chairman



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To Whom It May Concern,

The purpose of this letter is to ask that you give strong consideration of renewing full funding for voice services through the USAC Schools and Libraries Program. The yearly reduction of the Voice funding has had a strong adverse effect on our district. Our school system, like many others, struggles financially to cover the ever-rising costs of maintenance and operation of our schools. It is very important for schools to be in communication with parents, the community, law enforcement, and other safety organizations. The safety of the students in our district is something we feel is of great importance and requires voice phone lines as a means of providing that safety. While the increased availability of the Category 2 funding helps with our technology budget for qualifying equipment purchases, it is still tough to locate the funding to pay the district share of the costs. With the district funding to pay telephone service increasing each year of the phase-down, our district has subsequently been forced to reduce the amount of funding available for other projects to cover the difference. Basically, the funds that would have been used to provide our students with new and up-to-date educational technology equipment and software have been used to pay for phone costs. We respectfully request that USAC strongly consider reinstating funding of voice to maintain or improve the quality of our children's education. Thank you for your concern and reflection on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Levin Edwards". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Levin" and last name "Edwards" clearly distinguishable.

Levin Edwards
Director of Technology
Hardin County Schools